Socio-Legal Newsletter No 87

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Spring 2019

SLSA LEEDS 2019

From 3 to 5 April 2019, socio-legal scholars will be gathering in Leeds as guests of the University of Leeds Law School for the SLSA Annual Conference.

Leeds is a vibrant multicultural city in West Yorkshire, surrounded by beautiful countryside and a rich industrial history. Highlights for visitors include the Leeds Art Gallery, the Henry Moore Institute and the City Museum and, further afield, the National Museum of Mining, the National Sculpture Park and the Hepworth Gallery. Cultural events abound, with worldclass dance through the Northern Ballet and music from Opera North, alongside impressive Victorian architecture in the Town Hall, City Museum and the beautiful City Library. The conference team has organised a line-up of additional activities alongside the main conference programme, with two guided tours available to book: one of the campus art installations (see right, Allan Johnson's glass fibre sculpture on the Mechanical Engineering Building); and another of the city's attractions and history. An optional trip to the National Sculpture Park will be organised for the Friday afternoon, subject to sufficient interest. All events can be booked at the point of registration.

We have had phenomenal interest in the conference this year, with over 500 abstracts submitted across 33 streams and nine current topics. The hub of the conference will be the beautiful Parkinson Building with sessions running in rooms nearby. This year's plenary session will explore the everyday, invisible function of law, looking at how it shapes a specific aspect of life and society in the context of accessibility. The law places obligations on us to make society accessible to disabled people - through the Equality Act 2010 and through the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – but how far do those obligations extend? Our plenary session explores the concept - and importance - of accessibility beyond mere physical accessibility, looking to the accessibility of the arts. The speakers include: Professor Anna Lawson, an international legal expert on disability law, equality and accessibility, who will discuss the issue of accessibility from her own experience as a blind woman; and dance artist, Lynn Shaw, who will discuss her perspective as a performer, translating her lived experience of accessing mental health services into dance. The plenary will be followed by a drinks reception in Parkinson Court. Day two closes with the SLSA annual dinner and prize-giving which will take place in the Refectory in Leeds Student Union: a famous gig venue with its own rich history (as fans of The Who may well know!). After-dinner entertainment will be from a live band, The Fonics.

For postgraduates, there will be a PGR session before the welcome lunch on **3 April 2019**. Previous topics covered in these workshops have included academic wellbeing and resilience. Our popular poster competition is also back, and there will be networking opportunities for PGRs to meet with each other, and ECRs, throughout the three days of the conference. You can book onto this session at the point of conference registration, and for more information please contact the SLSA conference organising team.

Leeds is well-served by the transport network and accessible by rail, car, bus, coach and plane. The website features



'A Celebration of Engineering Sciences' by Allan Johnson

comprehensive details of all travel routes. Accommodation is not included in the conference package, but the Leeds team has arranged preferential rates at several city hotels, which can also be found on the website along with a link to book. The team has also negotiated child-care with the on-campus Bright Beginnings, and it will be possible to book places for your children until **6 March 2019**. See the **w SLSA2019**: childcare.

Registration is now open: **w** SLSA2019: registration. Please note that registration closes on 26 March 2019 at 6pm GMT.

For further information, visit **w** SLSA2019. If you have any queries, please contact the conference organising team: **e** slsa2019@leeds.ac.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you in the spring!

The Conference Team



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JOURNAL OF LAW AND SOCIETY







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EXEC NEWS

Changing the legal status of the SLSA

A working group of the SLSA Executive Committee has spent the last year researching options for changing the legal status of the SLSA to better reflect the size, aims and future aspirations of the Association. Having explored all the options in depth, we have decided that the best option for the SLSA is to register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Changing the legal status of the SLSA will require significant changes to the Constitution. For us to proceed with these plans, we require the support of the SLSA membership voting at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The text of the resolutions will be circulated to all members by email in advance of the AGM, in line with the current SLSA Constitution. We hope that as many members as possible will attend the AGM at the Annual Conference in Leeds on Thursday **4 April 2019** to discuss, express their views, and vote on this issue.

Vacancies on Executive Committee

There will be two vacancies arising at the AGM. If you feel you can offer your time and expertise and are interested in being nominated it is important that you attend the AGM where nominations will be taken and a secret ballot held if nominations exceed the number of seats available. You also need to attend the AGM if you wish to nominate a colleague. The **w Exec webpage** offers an insight into the roles and duties of Exec members, and a detailed **w job description** is also to be found there. Anyone interested is welcome to contact the chair or a member of the Exec for an informal chat (see **page 2**).

Annual general meeting

As mentioned above, the AGM will take place on **4 April 2019**. All members are welcome to attend. Please allow one hour for this. To suggest an agenda item, email SLSA secretary Neil Graffin by **15 March 2019 e** neil.graffin@open.ac.uk.

Thank you

The organisers of our 2018 conference, Devyani Prabhat and Janine Sargoni, have now stepped down from the Exec. We would like to extend our huge thanks to them both for delivering an extremely enjoyable gathering in beautiful Bristol last spring.

Jen Hendry and Jess Guth have now completed two terms on the Exec and are also stepping down. In her time on the Exec Jen has most recently served as vice chair, offering invaluable support and assistance to Rosie Harding, running the article prize process and organising our forthcoming conference at Humboldt University Berlin (see **page 4**). Among her many roles, Jess has been chair of the research grants subcommittee since spring 2014 and taken the lead role on the SQE for the Exec.

Welcome

Finally, we are delighted to welcome to the Exec the organisers of next year's conference at the University of Portsmouth, Daniel Bedford and Emily Walsh.

The newsletter needs you

The next copy deadline is **20 May 2019**. Please send your news; publications; research information; new jobs/promotions/awards; articles; events and anything else of interest to socio-legal colleagues to Marie Selwood **e** marieselwood@btinternet.com or **t** 01227 770189.

SLSA PRIZE SHORTLISTS 2019

The SLSA Exec is delighted to publish the shortlists for this year's book and article prizes. The winners will be announced at the Annual Conference dinner in Leeds on 4 April 2019.

Hart-SLSA Book Prize

- Tamir Moustafa (2018) *Constituting Religion: Islam liberal rights and the Malaysian state,* Cambridge University Press
- Charlotte O'Brien (2017) Unity in Adversity: EU citizenship, social justice and the cautionary tale of the UK, Hart/Bloomsbury
- Anthea Roberts (2017) *Is International Law International?*, Oxford University Press
- Nimer Sultany (2017) Law and Revolution: Legitimacy and constitutionalism after the Arab spring, Oxford University Press

Hart-SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics

- Meghan Campbell (2018) *Women, Poverty, Equality: The role of CEDAW,* Hart/Bloomsbury
- Maureen Duffy (2018) Detention of Terrorism Suspects: Political discourse and Fragmented practices, Hart/Bloomsbury

SLSA Theory and History Prize

- David Churchill (2017) Crime Control and Everyday Life in the Victorian City: The police and the public, Oxford University Press
- Athanasios Psygkas (2017) From the 'Democratic Deficit' to a 'Democratic Surplus': Constructing administrative democracy in Europe, Oxford University Press

SLSA Article Prize

- Anastasia Chamberlen and Henrique Carvalho (2018) 'The thrill of the chase: punishment, hostility and the prison crisis' (2019) 28(1) *Social and Legal Studies* (published online 26 February 2018)
- Máiréad Enright (2019) "'No. I won't go back': national time, trauma and legacies of symphysiotomy in Ireland' in S M Benyon-Jones and E Grabham (eds), *Law and Time*, Routledge, 46–74
- Marie Fox and Michael Thomson (2017) 'Bodily integrity, embodiment, and the regulation of parental choice' *Journal of Law and Society* 44(4): 501–31

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SLSA admin

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SLSA EVENTS

Each year the SLSA runs or supports numerous events, both in the UK and abroad, either independently or in partnership with academic institutions or other learned associations. Here is a round-up of the latest to have taken place and a few that we have lined up for 2019.

Future events

Workshop on Security, Borders and International Development: Intersections, convergence and challenges

This seminar scheme event will take place at the University of Warwick on **25–26 April 2019**. The organisers are Celine Tan and Ana Aliverti. See **w website** for further details.

Impact and Law Reform Conference

This one-day conference has been organised by the SLSA and the Society for Legal Scholars in collaboration with the Law Commission for England and Wales and the Scottish Law Commission. It will take place on **11 June 2019** at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London. The plenary speaker is Brenda Hale (President of the Supreme Court, The Right Hon the Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE). Please see **w website** for details. **Registration is now open:** SLSA members' rate £40. Places are limited, so book now!

Socio-legal Studies in Germany and the UK: Theory and methods

This two-day SLSA event is to be held at Humboldt University Berlin on **23–24 September 2019**. The keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Dr Susanne Baer (German Constitutional Court). For details, please visit the **w website**.

Thirty years of Rich Law, Poor Law

On 25 January 2019, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies hosted an SLSA one-day workshop, inspired by the 30th anniversary of Dee Cook's important book, Rich Law, Poor Law (1989 Open University Press). Organiser Ann Mumford describes an inspiring day of lively discussion.

This wonderful monograph, pivotal for a generation of sociolegal scholars, highlighted the fact that privileged groups are able to access the welfare system more effectively than less privileged groups. Cook's research also compared responses within law to tax evasion and welfare fraud. She demonstrated that, although similar amounts of money are lost to both forms of crime, the societal reaction to each differs significantly.

The workshop was organised by Katie Bales and Dave Cowan (Bristol) and Ann Mumford (King's College London) and hosted four plenary speakers.

John Flint (Sheffield) opened the day with a presentation themed, 'Rich Doors, Poor Doors', exploring the nuances of Wacquant's concept of the welfare state. In particular, Flint's significant research emphasises the banishment of poverty and the moral dilemmas experienced by actors navigating the front line. Practitioners, he explains, often experience anguish as they implement the cut-backs required by austerity. Beveridge's welfare state, Flint warns, has been flipped. The welfare state is no longer a safety net, but a tool wielded to correct the behaviour of the poor and marginalised.

Kathleen Lahey (Queen's University, Kingston) then offered a compelling and sobering review of the socio-economic conditions within which (amongst other actors) the Crown Dependencies follow legal strategies as closely as possible to ensure that, under current global conditions, global wealth remains unequally distributed. The consequences of this, Lahey explains, are staggering. The International Monetary Fund estimates that \$500 billion in taxes that otherwise would have been collected are lost annually to practices which place money offshore. In the Cayman Islands, alone, the estimate is close to \$3.5 trillion. The impact of this is evident in a variety of ways, beyond the obvious and devastating loss of funding available to states. The structure of laws which enable this practice, for example, interact with legal protections against gender discrimination. A perfect illustration of this is evident in the recent run of case law addressing the benefit cap, which Lahey illustrated in a fascinating presentation.

Jolyon Maugham QC (Devereux Chambers) related to a spellbound workshop an account of his challenge to HMRC's treatment of Uber in the UK. Of particular interest was his description of the 'line in the sand' that public lawyers draw when considering challenges to decisions made by the state, and the subtlety required to construct a case which juxtaposes the interest of the public against those of a private defendant. His presentation was complemented perfectly by Linda Mulcahy's (Oxford) detailing of the dramatic shift away from the post-War social contract. Her intriguing reframing of Galanter's 2004 work on 'the vanishing trial' revealed a number of important points, three of which are mentioned here. First, the maintenance of judicial statistics is of such poor quality as almost to be scandalous. Secondly, even as the demand for law is higher than ever, its supply appears to be decreasing. And, finally, the privatisation of justice through arbitration requires further attention and should provide a focus for future research.

Fortified by these excellent plenary presentations, the workshop continued to explore five themes: the failings of the justice system; the welfare state and the distribution of capital; differential justice; borders, bodies and belonging; and space, place and environment.

Jess Mant (Cardiff) opened the 'Failings of the justice system' session with an insightful analysis of legal aid, family law and the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012; sharing, amongst other startling facts, that 80 per cent of hearings in her important study were conducted as litigants in person. Emma Hitchings (Bristol) then offered a fascinating paper addressing media coverage of remedies available on divorce. We learned that the 'meal ticket for life' settlements are rare and, in fact, occur in less than 2 per cent of cases.

Mike Adler (Edinburgh) introduced the workshop to the research underpinning his new book within the Palgrave Socio-Legal Series (Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment? (2018)) at the start of the 'Welfare state and the distribution of capital' session. He explained that, even as the super-rich tend to be unknown to statisticians and researchers, so are the totally destitute. In fact, statistics demonstrating that economic inequality is falling in the UK tend to exclude the homeless. He considered whether the existence of wealth as vast as that of, say, Bill Gates is inconsistent with democracy. Fittingly, Helen Carr (Kent) then directed our analyses to an insightful consideration of the physicality of 'poor law'. We learned that the welfare state did not anticipate a large number of renters in old age. The link between poor housing and health was explored, as was the impact of the Housing (Fitness for Habitation) Act 2018.

Iain Frame (Kent) provided a perfect introduction to the session addressing 'Differential justice' by illustrating the many ways in which there is one law for the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) and another law for its customers. He challenged the workshop to reimagine the purpose of banks like RBS and, indeed, the role of governments in lending and managing risk. Melissa Hamilton (Surrey) then led the workshop to an expert consideration of how risk assessment in criminal justice favours the rich. In fact, risk assessment analyses are directly connected to poor/rich binaries, or proxies for poor/rich. Konstantinos Polomarkarkis (Lincoln) closed this excellent session with a sobering presentation addressing the impact of taxation on unhealthy diets.

The 'Borders, bodies and belonging' session, chaired by Katie Bales, began with Annika Lindberg and Lisa Borelli's (HES-SO Valais-Wallis and Institute for Sociology, Bern) fascinating research into the everyday practices of border bureaucracy and the consequences when vulnerability becomes the reason for exclusion. Next, Chris Rowe's (Sheffield) powerful presentation on the 'real risk' to family life posed by the minimum income requirements for immigration highlighted the growing importance of common law rights within litigation seeking to challenge the borders of 'poor law'. Moniza Rizzini Ansari (Birkbeck) followed with a compelling illustration of the militarisation of urban space. She explained that the justice system sees certain symbols as an indication of criminality and

LSAANZ 2018, Australia

The Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand (LSAANZ) Annual Conference took place in Wollongong, Australia, from 12 to 15 December 2018. The SLSA was a co-sponsor of this event and provided three £500 bursaries for PGRs to attend. SLSA Exec member, Roxanna Dehaghani, attended the event and even appeared on the radio while she was there.

Whilst I have been attending the SLSA annual conference consistently since 2015 and had recently attended the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, jointly organised with the Canadian Law and Society Association, I had yet to make it out to Australia to attend the LSAANZ Conference. When I found out that the conference would be hosted by the Legal Intersections Research Centre at the University of Wollongong this year, I jumped at the chance to attend and I am very glad that I did (not least because I got interviewed for local radio in Wollongong about my experience of attending LSAANZ and about what I learned during the course of the conference!).

One thing that struck me was that the atmosphere at the conference was, much like the other socio-legal/law and society associations' conferences, overwhelmingly inclusive and supportive. Indeed, I spoke with PhD students who had thus far only attended doctrinal law conferences and they remarked at how inclusive the socio-legal community is by contrast. In my view, the socio-legal community cultivates and encourages critical scholarship and fosters this from an early stage in the academic career, and I was heartened to hear that others have the same interpretation.

During my time at the conference, I not only had the opportunity to interact with scholars from Australia and New Zealand, but also those from Canada, the USA and the UK. I was also interested to learn why scholars had travelled from far and wide to attend LSAANZ. Undoubtedly, the opportunity to visit beautiful Wollongong formed part of the motivation, but so too did the opportunity to enrich one's work by interacting with scholars outside of one's home jurisdiction. This was seen as important not only for those conducting research in international or comparative law, but also for those who are researching the approaches in their domestic jurisdictions. As one delegate highlighted: 'Attending LSAANZ is a great opportunity to share common themes across jurisdictions. It also allows us to see points of consonance and points of dissonance in global trends.' LSAANZ and socio-legal conferences, more generally, were also seen as essential for the discussion of methods and methodology, something that often gets overlooked at doctrinal law conferences.

I was particularly keen on hearing more about differing approaches to tackling the issues of intimate partner violence, domestic violence, and sexual violence (and the ways in which, it must be noted, these are interlinked) within Australia, New that it is clear that the poor, as a class, are seen as criminals. Tracey Varnava (Kent) continued this exploration of the urban space with an excellent investigation of the role that business plays in the governance of homelessness in Canterbury. Last, but by no means least, Hannah Phillips (Kent) closed the session with a sobering and intriguing presentation on the impact of sale and rent-back transactions and the lingering legacy of the 2014 Scott case.

Dave Cowan wrapped up the day with the suggestion that these papers offered a variety of perspectives on 'different ways of seeing'. There remains an inherent link between the rich law/poor law divide, he explained, and the reverberations of the choices made by the 'judges of normalcy'. In this and many other important ways, the insights of *Rich Law, Poor Law* remain relevant.

Zealand and Canada. What struck me was that, whilst the law may differ between countries (and, indeed, within countries, such as in the case of Australia), the same systemic structural issues remain. Such similarities underscore the importance of not simply addressing the law in the books, but also examining and critiquing the law in action, something that we socio-legal scholars know all too well.

It must be remembered, however, that this exchange of ideas flows both ways. I was therefore delighted to hear a number of individuals discussing their desire to attend the SLSA conference in Leeds in April 2019. Whilst discussion of Brexit did not frequently arise in interactions with scholars from within and outside of the UK (and such was a welcome break!), in a post-Brexit era it is nevertheless important that UK scholars, whether as collectives or as individuals, seek to establish links with other socio-legal organisations such that we do not cut ourselves, our research, and our ideas adrift. The SLSA 2019 conference therefore seems like the perfect opportunity to continue conversations with non-UK scholars to avoid siloed thinking. Whilst still jet-lagged, I thoroughly enjoyed my first LSAANZ conference and I'm extremely excited for what will be my fifth SLSA conference!

Listen to w Roxanna's interview on ABC Illawarra.

Transmitting justice: transparency, visuality, and mediatization

Sarah Moore, University of Bath, received £2000 from our seminar competition for this one-day symposium held in London on 10 December 2018.

This interdisciplinary event explored the emergence, implications, and impact of new technologies of transmission in the courtroom. We focused on what's lost, what's gained, and what's changed in the turn towards visual and digital technologies in the courtroom, and the effects of mediation on jurors, witnesses, defendants and the public.

The event consisted of three 90-minute panels and a keynote address, delivered by scholars from a range of academic disciplines (including law, media studies, sociology and criminology), as well as researchers working in the charity and consultancy sector.

The first panel of the day turned the spotlight on 'transparent justice'. Dr Megan Knight (University of Hertfordshire) presented findings from a multinational study of the use of social media in the courtroom. Emily MacLoud (Etic Lab) outlined the threats of political manipulation and social media bots to justice systems' open digital toolsets. And, finally, Dr Sarah Moore (University of Bath) examined how courtroom filming and transmission is introducing new ways for the public to 'see justice being done'. The lively full-group discussion thereafter concentrated on the impact of 'transparent justice' initiatives on the public.

The second panel was composed of two papers, each with very different propositions about the reach of new technology in the courtroom. The first paper, from Dr Olivia Smith (Anglia Ruskin University), set out the ways in which rape trials are being reshaped by new, audiovisual technology, in terms of new sources of evidence, new modes of evidence delivery and as a potential route to victim participation. The second paper, from Professor Leif Dahlberg (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm), discussed the relative *lack* of technological support in Swedish courtrooms to support interpreting, comparing it to the extensive use of media technology for video-recording testimony. The resulting discussion examined in particular the important question of what's included and left out of the 'technological turn' in the courtroom, and why.

The third panel of the day incorporated two papers on the impact of live-link video in the courtroom and other criminal justice settings, focusing specifically on whether this jeopardises due process. Penelope Gibbs (Transform Justice) spoke across a set of developments in criminal justice policy to question the efficacy and outcomes of 'virtual justice'. Professor Louise Ellison (University of Leeds) presented findings from a study which investigated the influence of video-recorded testimony on (mock) juror decision-making in adult rape cases. In the fullgroup discussion that followed, attendees drew useful connections between this panel and the first and remarked upon promising directions for future research.

SLSA Postgraduate conference 2019

Dr Victoria McCloud from the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford (part-time DPhil in socio-legal studies), attended our most recent postgraduate event.

This year's SLSA postgraduate conference was hosted by Warwick University, from **3–4 January 2019**, and featured presenters Professors Linda Mulcahy, Dave Cowan, Rosemary Hunter, Sally Wheeler and Rosie Harding in a chilly start-of-year Warwickshire. It was a great help that the SLSA had enabled the postgrad attendees to stay in the conference centre accommodation overnight nearby, making it easy to get to the venue for what is a packed couple of days of very interactive seminars of an hour-and-a-half each.

I think many people (including myself) did not know exactly what to expect (Would I have to explain my 'research' to a baying crowd? Would I be expected to answer questions about epistemology in a quick-fire Q&A test?). In fact, the two days are an informative look at several key aspects of the socio-legal postgraduate experience, and how it relates to future careers, publications and other aspects of life, both during and after one's research is done. I was asked by the newsletter editor to say something about my own context here: I am a part-time (chronologically mature!) doctoral student looking at actornetwork theory in the context of what subjectively can be called 'fake news', 'internet propaganda' etc on the internet and how the information we get from the internet is controlled and manipulated by people, machines and hybrids of the two. I am a full-time lawyer in London after previously doing a psychology doctorate in the early 1990s in human visual psychophysics.

Each session at Warwick was presented by pairs of academics, which made for an interactive and sometimes also contrasting approach, and the sessions were also quite open in terms of people asking questions as things went along, which was a useful way to enable the groups to explore themes they The event ended with a keynote address from Dr Dawn Moore (Carleton University, Canada), titled 'Taming the abused: docile images, threatening victims and virtual evidence of domestic assault'. Dawn's paper looked in particular at the use of images in the implementation of the 'victimless prosecution' of domestic violence. She argued that images of injuries create a 'data double' of the victim, a virtual proxy who plays the role of docile, curated victim, rife with vulnerability and an uncanny ability to embody the fragility of victimhood written into scripts of domestic violence. This fascinating paper stimulated much debate around the use (and misuse) of visual evidence and, beyond this, the cultural currency of images of criminal justice.

One-day conferences

The SLSA occasionally sponsors one-day conferences, seminars or workshops of broad interest to the socio-legal community. Oneday events should be fully costed and self-funding and will usually involve a member of the SLSA Executive Committee in an organisational role. The SLSA may be able to underwrite the event to a limited extent and/or provide endorsement. If you have an idea for a one-day conference and would like an indication of the SLSA's interest, please contact e admin@slsa.ac.uk, or approach a member of the Executive Committee directly to discuss your ideas. Proposals for underwriting should include an outline of the concept, an indication of proposed speakers and/or call for papers, venue, timing, number of attendees and a draft budget showing full costs and how those costs will be covered by registration fees and/or from other sources. Please see w webpage for details of past and future events under this initiative.

were unfamiliar with or wanted to know more about. The first session focused on 'Getting published'. This was a thorough going over of the types of publications 'out there', and key questions, such as 'When should I publish?', 'Should I aim at publishing during my research or save it up for a book or monograph?', plus coping with rejections and what the practical significance of publishing is in one's career. The second session, which covered 'Getting a job', helpfully meshed with the first topic – for example, detailing: what not to do in job interviews; what not to put on your CV (such as claiming to have written a book when it's so far only 20 pages long!); what sorts of publications and experience help in getting a job; and, crucially, what types of jobs there are out there.

Session three covered 'Supervising your supervisor' – a discussion about managing the relationship, including: how to get the best out of it (and what to do/not do), and how to manage problems if they arise, specifically if there are joint supervisors. Session four was on 'Funding and impact'. This last session was for me the most illuminating of all because it went into areas such as: the importance of the REF; how to establish 'impact' in the real world; and how all that helps with funding of projects. We also covered types of funding and what tends to be covered or not covered.

Finally, there was a plenary session where the good and less good aspects of presenting work at conferences were gone over, with sage advice about avoiding getting onto a very high-profile presentation too soon in one's career.

The event was also a great way to meet other postgraduates from all over the country doing work in vastly different and varied areas, and it was wonderful to socialise in the evening and compare our experiences, life histories and aspirations (and in my case to meet some other part-timers juggling jobs with study).

Many thanks indeed to the organisers behind the scenes, the SLSA and, of course, the academics who presented at the conference.

POSTGRAD NEWS

Our PG reps Tahir Abass and Rachael Blakey share the latest postgraduate news from the SLSA.

The SLSA Postgraduate Conference was held in January 2019, at Warwick University. As an annual event, the conference is an opportunity for PGRs to network and attend a variety of sessions on academia, including publishing, presenting at conferences, getting a job, applying for funding, and impact. These sessions were run by some of the leading scholars in socio-legal studies: see Victoria McCloud's full report on **page 6**.

The SLSA Annual Conference is fast approaching – **3–5 April 2019**, at Leeds University. The PGR activities at the SLSA conference are normally held on the morning of the first day of the event and are a brilliant way for PGRs to meet each other and to network. Following the success of the PGR workshop on resilience in Bristol last year, the theme for this year's workshop will be identity, well-being and postgraduate research. The workshop will be led by Sarah Humphreys and will explore our (multiple) identities as PGRs, how these can fluctuate and evolve over time, and what this can mean for our wellbeing.

A PGR-ECR networking scheme is a regular feature of the Annual Conference. This year, the networking scheme will be taking place straight after the workshop to ensure a high number of postgraduates get to benefit from the advice and support of ECRs. A number of ECRs will be present to speak to PGRs about their experiences during their PhD and academic

SLSA GRANTS SCHEME

The SLSA offers two types of grants: Research Grants and PhD Fieldwork Grants. This year the SLSA Exec has decided to support nine projects to the value of almost £27,000. In the summer issue, the latest cohort will provide summaries of their planned projects, in the meantime, two past grantholders report on their completed projects. For more information on this scheme, please visit the w website.

Small grants 2019

- Charlie Bishop, Exeter University, and Marian Duggan, Kent University, £2577.88, 'Exploring feminist academics' experiences of teaching gendered and intersectional sociolegal issues'
- Donal Casey, Kent University, £2709.98, 'The glue that keeps compliance stuck together: the role of test houses in online gambling regulation'
- Eithne Dowds, Queen's University Belfast, £1714, 'Perceptions of sexual consent in Northern Ireland: rape, responsibilisation and reasonable belief'
- Peter Dunne, Bristol University, and Maria Moscati, University of Sussex, £2995, 'We exist too: young trans perspectives on legal gender recognition laws in England and Wales'
- Máiréad Enright, Birmingham University, £2600, 'Repealing the 8th: activist legal agency and abortion law reform in Ireland'
- Suhraiya Jivraj, Kent University, £2726, 'Embracing and reflecting BME diversity in law school curricula: why and how?'
- Elise Ketelaars, Ulster University, £2617, 'Women against women's rights: female Islamists and Tunisia's equal inheritance debate'

careers. Further details on both events are available on the official **w** SLSA2019 website.

If you have any questions relating to PGR matters, PGR involvement in the Annual Conference, or even have an event you wish to advertise to PGRs, please email us at e slsapgrep@gmail.com. See you in April!

AcSS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

As a member of the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS), the SLSA can nominate eminent socio-legal scholars for appointment as academicians. Full details of the process are available on the **w** AcSS website.

The paramount requirement for successful nomination is that the nominee be 'a leading figure in their field and have already left a clear mark on it'. The AcSS notes that suitable nominees should 'merit the esteem of their peers for the excellence of their work and their championing of social science'.

SLSA members already admitted as fellows include all the winners of our prestigious annual prize. See the **w** AcSS website for the full list of current fellows.

Please send nominations (maximum 500 words) to Vanessa Munro **e** v.munro@warwick.ac.uk by **18 March 2019**.

- Jamie Lindsey, University of Essex, £2970, 'The role of mediation in improving participation in the Court of Protection'
- Emma Milne, Middlesex University, £2987.19, 'Judging the failed mother: women suspected of killing their newborn children and the courts'

Fieldwork grant 2018

• Pankhuri Agarwal, Bristol University, £2760, 'A socio-legal investigation into the journey of bonded labourers from "slavery" to "freedom" at the crossroads of labour, law and the State in India'

Experiences of sexual orientation and gender identity during imprisonment

Giuseppe Zago, Northumbria University, £1635

My research concerns the treatment of people of different sexual orientations and gender identities during lawful imprisonment in England and Wales, and Italy. It adopts a socio-legal approach that combines the study of black letter law with the qualitative analysis of semi-structured interviews with convicted adult LGBTQ people. The interviews took place inside two penal institutions in England and Wales and three prisons in Italy, after getting clearance from Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service and the Italian Prison Service. They revolved around participants' views on identity, relationships and encounters inside and outside prison.

The SLSA fieldwork grant has been fundamental for completing my data collection in Italy. It helped me considerably in supporting the financial costs to live abroad and travel to locations quite far from one another (two in the northwest, and one in the centre of Italy).

In Italy, I completed 14 interviews – with three MTF transsexuals, three homosexual men and eight lesbian women. I

was based at the University of Florence, where I previously contacted L'Altro Diritto, a resource centre conducting theoretical and sociological research on prisons. Its staff served as gatekeepers to approach prison governors, the prisons ombudsman, and social workers operating in the rehabilitation teams within the selected penal institutions, with whom I could organise an interview schedule for each prison.

I would plan an introductory meeting to explain the purpose of my research to prison governors, prison staff and – when possible – to potential participants, presenting the research information sheet, and a short questionnaire where prison residents could voluntarily self-identify and manifest their consent to be interviewed. Sometimes, I could hand these documents directly to potential participants, while on other occasions I had to give them to the prison staff for distribution to prisoners hosted in special sections, or to residents who could be approached individually as they had already disclosed their sexual orientation or gender identity.

After the initial meeting, I usually conducted my interviews in one or two days. In every penal institution visited, I found that my points of contact were very interested in this study. They asked me several times to share my research conclusions, or to provide recommendations on strategies to improve the life of LGBTQ prisoners. Conversely, I noticed that some staff lacked appropriate training regarding sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). This raised unexpected issues concerning my methodology, as I initially planned to recruit participants among the general prison population to include in my sample along with people who had never disclosed their SOGI to the prison administration. However, this was ultimately not possible.

Completing 14 interviews with LGBTQ prisoners represented a really important step in my PhD journey. The project suddenly took shape, embodied in all participants' stories and experiences that they decided to share with me. Each interview showed depth and complexity, with a mix of clever remarks, reflections on loneliness and on relational difficulties both with people inside and outside prison, and I look forward to analysing the data collected in the field.

Maya women survivors' voices on transitional justice in Guatemala

Juliette Doman, University of Liverpool, £1738

This project explores the meanings and perceptions of legal justice for Maya Q'eqchi women survivors of wartime sexual violence and the organisations supporting them and examines their participation in the legal process and posterior reparations process. The women testified and took part as a civil party in the Sepur Zarco trial in February 2016, prosecuting two former members of the military for crimes against humanity in the form of domestic and sexual slavery, the forced disappearance of the women's husbands and the murders of one of the women and her two young daughters. These crimes were committed at the Sepur Zarco military detachment in 1982, in the context of Guatemala's civil war (1960–1996). Former Lieutenant Colonel Esteelmer Reyes and former Military Commissioner Heriberto Valdez Asij were sentenced to prison terms of 120 and 240 years, respectively. The trial represents a break-though in Guatemala and worldwide, since this was the first time that a national court has prosecuted members of its own military for wartime domestic and sexual slavery and the first successful prosecution of wartime sexual violence in Guatemala, which was committed on a massive scale during the civil war. Reparations were awarded by the court, including collective reparations, but implementation has been slow.

During the first stage of the research, I observed the trial and spent several months conducting ethnographic research with the women survivors and staff of the organisations supporting them. A grant from the SLSA's fieldwork scheme enabled the second stage of the research, which examines community perspectives on the trial and reparations process and looks more closely at the participation of community authorities and the women survivors in the design and implementation of the reparations. The research therefore addresses several questions being examined in the field of transitional justice, which has begun to explore the roles, agency and experiences of victims in transitional justice and to consider the local impact and local perceptions.

I was in Guatemala for three months over the summer of 2018, holding focus groups with the women survivors and with youth and community leaders. One of the key dimensions was to examine the concept of transformative reparations, and see what this meant for the women and their communities. To find out what 'transformative' meant, the focus groups explored the current conditions and the changes community members wanted in the key areas dealt with by the reparations process, such as access to healthcare and to secondary-level education. I used a participatory creative methodology adapted from Ketso,¹ based on popular education methods. I started each session by asking what community members knew about the case, since the legal process had been kept secret for many years to avoid re-stigmatisation of the women survivors.

'I know the struggle of the women who are here ... I had to go and live in the mountains for 6 years to save my life ... thanks to God that the women struggled ... the problem [the violence] was simply because of the land and to this day ... we still haven't got legal tenure ... The government sent the military to kill the campesinos [peasant farmers] here, and they did so, and some killed the husbands of the women here.'

Don José² is from one of the four communities where the women live. Like most of the Maya Q'eqchi community authorities who came to my focus group there, he was unable to go to the trial, due to the distance from this small community, in the lush subtropical lowlands of north-eastern Guatemala. His community is one of the four communities awarded collective reparations and which has been part of the implementation process.

When I ask this community about the reparations, one issue is mentioned repeatedly: 'The thing that is most urgent for us ... is the land.' Two of the four communities, like many of the indigenous Maya Q'eqchi communities in this area, do not have titles to the land they are living on. My fieldwork showed that the lack of legal tenure is the greatest concern for the communities affected, while the women themselves identify their individual lack of property rights with gendered and historic injustice. The lack of tenure is a major obstacle to securing many of the collective reparations awarded and other social and economic rights community members are entitled to. Without legal tenure, the government will not build the health centre, high school or monument in Sepur Zarco, nor build housing for each of the women, all of which are part of the collective reparations owed. Discussions revealed that insecure tenure is also the cause of feelings of insecurity, since there are often evictions of neighbouring Q'eqchi communities who are seeking to reclaim land in what was historically the Q'eqchi region. Resolving indigenous claims to their ancestral land is an historic problem in Guatemala, and one that has mostly not been resolved. Even when land rights are granted, it is difficult for women to secure titles, which means that indigenous women are often doubly discriminated against. Land rights and other socio-economic rights are not prioritised under the framework of transitional justice, yet these were the issues prioritised by the women survivors and other community members in our discussions.

However, there is an important difference in the communities where the women live since the trial and start of the collective reparations process. The women were stigmatised and blamed for the sexual violence by members of their own communities. When I asked the women about what people in their communities say about them now, they say that now people say: 'The women have organised now' and 'Now women have the right to speak.' The women have stated that there is more respect for them now, although their struggle and achievements are still not fully recognised. There is an emerging - although fragile - recognition of the women survivors as community leaders and as human rights defenders whose struggle is helping to secure the social and economic rights prioritised by community members - access to education, healthcare, land – and who succeeded in holding to account two of those responsible for atrocities committed in their communities. The guilty verdict helped vindicate the women, but this was not enough to achieve this change. In Sepur Zarco there is now a mobile clinic, which will be replaced by a permanent health centre once the land has been awarded to the community. Winning greater access to healthcare, in the form of the mobile clinic, provided a tangible sign for community members and vindicated the women's truths.

Discussions with staff of the organisations supporting the women revealed their role in helping the women achieve greater respect and recognition. Local staff have been working closely with community members for several years, starting in the leadup to the trial, in order to create support networks for the women in their own communities. This work is ongoing, since the social fabric was severely damaged by the multiple forms of violence committed against the women and their communities.

COULD YOU BE A COMMISSIONER AT THE LAW COMMISSION?

The Law Commission wishes to identify a new generation of talented lawyers in advance of appointing two new Commissioners at the start of 2020 (replacing Professor David Ormerod QC, a specialist in criminal law, and Stephen Lewis, a specialist in commercial law).

The Commission, an impartial statutory body set up by the Law Commissions Act 1965, is tasked with developing and reforming the law in England and Wales. We are currently working on projects ranging from online abusive communications, proceeds of crime and confiscation, the use of electronic signatures, hate crime, surrogacy, automated vehicles and residential leasehold property.

The next 5 to 10 years are likely to witness unprecedented constitutional, social, technical and economic change. Commissioners are instrumental in leading law reform. We must keep abreast of developments and remain relevant, and our new Commissioners will be pivotal in ensuring that we do this successfully.

The role of a Commissioner is much more than just drafting reports. Commissioners engage with the public and media by speaking at seminars and roundtables and conducting interviews with broadcast and print media. Commissioners liaise with MPs, government ministers, officials and the senior judiciary, and play an active role in steering legislation through Parliament. Commissioners also identify possible new projects for reform. A Commissioner's work is conducted in close collaboration with a team of extremely able and specialist lawyers and researchers.



The banner tells the story of the women's struggle — the section in the photo illustrates the collective reparations prioritised by the women survivors: 'certeza juridica' is secure land tenure, 'colegio' is the high school, 'hospitalito' is the health centre and 'monumento' is a monument to commemorate the women's disappeared husbands and the women's struggle for justice.

By documenting these changes in the local communities, at the micro-level of transitional justice, my research visit helped me to understand the local impact and local perceptions and to see how women survivors' agency has been greatly strengthened, through their own struggle for justice and through the support of allies. My discussions with the women also revealed the importance of respect and recognition – acknowledgment and recognition of their suffering and their struggle is one of the dimensions of justice for them.

- 1 w Ketso
- 2 Names have been changed.

What we are looking for?

We are keen to look to as broad and diverse a pool of talent as we possibly can to find our new appointments.

Traditionally, Law Commissioners have been senior professors, judges, top QCs or leading partners in law firms. But we will now be looking well beyond our traditional recruiting grounds, and we encourage those who might never have considered themselves to be 'Law Commission' material to apply.

Candidates still need to have exceptional academic ability and may well have an area of experience and expertise. But equally important is that they are intellectually curious and enthusiastic about turning their abilities to issues and topics which they might not be so familiar with. We are looking for 'modern lawyers' who are interested in the sorts of developments that will occur in society, the economy and technology in the future.

You do not need any pre-existing knowledge in law reform and parliamentary procedures. We seek candidates with potential who will relish learning new skills on the job.

Next steps for interested candidates

The application process has not opened yet, but we would like to discuss the role with anyone who might be interested in applying: see **wwebpage** for details. We have also set up a diversity work-shadowing scheme to give individuals from under-represented groups the chance to experience the role of Commissioner, helping them to decide whether they wish to take their interest further – whether now or in the future. Details are available on the Law Commission's website **w diversity page**.

We hope this will help us attract candidates from a broad and diverse pool of talent. If you think you could be one of our future Commissioners, we would love to hear from you.

Sir Nicholas Green, Chairman of the Law Commission



Delegates — including one very early career scholar — gathered at the Ghana Institute of Advanced Legal Studies for two days in October 2018

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES, THE GLOBAL SOUTH AND THE PRODUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE: REFLECTIONS ON A SERIES OF WRITING WORKSHOPS

In autumn 2018 a series of workshops, organised by Cardiff Law and Global Justice, was held in four locations in the Global South with the aim of supporting scholars developing papers for submission to socio-legal journals, but also to consider future best practice for these publications in welcoming and supporting submissions from the widest range of authors. John Harrington and Ambreena Manji report on this truly international initiative, bringing a wide range of socio-legal scholars together.

Socio-legal journals have long committed to showcasing scholarship from the Global South and to reflecting the critical, anti-colonial traditions of the field. However, it has been difficult to sustain this commitment over time, as we documented in a review commissioned to mark the 25th anniversary of *Social and Legal Studies*. In order to renew engagement and to encourage reflection on the broader politics of publication in socio-legal studies, **Cardiff Law and Global Justice** organised a series of writing workshops in Ghana, India, Kenya and Brazil in autumn 2018 with support from the British Academy and the *Journal of Law and Society*.

The **workshops** were co-ordinated with our partners: Strathmore Law School, Nairobi; the Ghana Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Accra; Azim Premji University Bangalore; and the Universidade Federal Pernambuco. They were led by editors drawn from the Journal of Law and Society, Social and Legal Studies, Feminist Legal Studies, the Modern Law Review, the South African Journal of Criminal Law, Strathmore Law Journal and the American Journal of Legal History. A total of 80 early career scholars were mentored individually and in peer-group discussions on finalising draft papers for publication. These encounters also facilitated the creation of socio-legal networks across the regions from which participants were drawn.

We drew on the experience and expertise of the **UK African Studies Association** in planning the workshops. Prior to launch, socio-legal journal editors gathered in Cardiff for a day of reflection on the operational, ethical and political issues raised. Dr Carli Coetzee, editor of the *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, a pioneer in organising and reflection on writing workshops, addressed us on the pitfalls and potential of the series and advised us on the important issues of power and inequality inherent to such encounters.

It is clear that there is no final answer to these questions, certainly not one which proposes a simple north–south transfer of expertise, or even one of mutual learning. To varying degrees scholars in the Global South are impeded by a skewed allocation of resources, authority and prestige in the international academic scene. This tends to see them included as junior partners or 'native informants' on projects designed elsewhere, framed in terms of alien theoretical traditions, and aimed at benefiting the originating institutions and their national funders. Most fatefully, perhaps, this domination of knowledge production obscures from Global South scholars their own rich heritage of critical scholarship.

Our workshops were organised instead around an attitude of modesty, respect and openness, turning critical reflection back on journals, their editors and on the socio-legal community in the Global North, while never overlooking the utility of concrete engagement. Each workshop sought to realise both of these ambitions. Participants warmly praised the careful reading of their work, the practical advice about where and when to publish, and the insights which editors brought from their own national and regional contexts. Equally, the workshops created space in plenary for discussion of the general barriers to self-determined research and publication in countries of the Global South. This includes fundamental obstacles to accessing papers presented by intellectual property rights. An extractive model sees scholars locked out of knowledge produced about them and reliant on their labour. While open access initiatives are helpful, they have, to date, been partial.

The workshops were designed to take account of the nature of academic life in partner institutions and to avoid the unproductive imposition *in toto* of academic and occupational categories. Most important perhaps is the understanding of what we mean by 'early career researcher'. As Carli Coetzee has pointed out, different career pathways and biographies mean that a PhD may be obtained at a considerably later age than in a European university. Once this threshold has been passed, an academic may be asked very soon to serve in a significant leadership role which prevents research and publication for an extended period. The publishing landscape in different Global South countries is also complex. Journals may not endure for lack of resources; and committees may demand to see publication in Global North journals as a precondition for promotion.

More positively, participants were keen to recover and promote the important bodies of socio-legal scholarship from

Decolonising the Curriculum Project

The Kent Law School (KLS), University of Kent (UoK), Decolonising the Curriculum Project is funded by a Teaching Enhancement Award. The project's facilitator Suhraiya Jivraj describes its aims and objectives.

Students are increasingly demanding a 'liberated curriculum' that represents their diversity, as we see from #liberatemydegree, 'Why is My Curriculum White?' and other movements, as well as the Kent Student Union campaign 'Diversify My Curriculum'. Also at Kent, law and politics students, including those on the 'Race, religion and law' (RRL) module (convened by Dr Jivraj), have relished the opportunity both in workshops and through their assessment to explore historical and contemporary issues that enable them to acquire 'consciousness of their own position and struggle' in society and education. The UoK Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity Project phase II strategy acknowledges this need in affirming that the white curriculum acts as a barrier to inclusivity', including because 'it fails to legitimise contributions to knowledge from people of colour'. Phase II therefore seeks to ensure that 'our curriculum reflects and addresses a range of perspectives' and asks how this can be operationalised specifically at UoK. Modules like RRL and others in KLS are already operationalising a more inclusive curriculum, requiring students to engage with key works from critical race/religion and decolonial studies which offer alternative perspectives to those heteronormative and Euro-centric perspectives of white, able-bodied men dominating the Western canon.

This project goes one significant step further by placing students of colour, as well as knowledge produced by people of colour, at the centre. Being a student-led project is crucial as it empowers students to become change actors and co-producers of knowledge, shaping the agenda and curriculum that seeks to include them.

The project will be hosting a student-led conference on Wednesday **20 March 2019** at the UoK campus from 1–6pm: see **w website**. At the conference the **@DecoloniseUKC** students will launch their manifesto of recommendations – collated through student-led focus groups – supported by a line-up of leading scholars, activists and performance artists working on race (in)equality in higher education. You can sign up and find further details at **w decoloniseUKC.org** and follow **@decoloniseUKC** on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Dr Jivraj is also leading a research project on decolonising the curriculum in law schools and would welcome interest from law school teachers engaging in 'decolonising pedagogy practices', particularly in core modules, who are willing to be interviewed. Please contact her at **e** s.jivraj@kent.ac.uk. their different regions. Law Schools at Dar es Salaam, Port Moresby and New Delhi, for example, were authentic seedbeds for the **rise of the field** globally. Socio-legal scholarship as we know it was and is sustained by the mobility of scholars from south to north, and within the Global South. We emphasised this in the framing of the workshops to participating editors and early career scholars. It was an honour to the series that key figures in the founding of law schools and legal scholarship, figures with immense international influence, accepted our invitations to deliver keynote lectures: Professor Nana S K B Asante (Accra) and Professors Yash P Ghai and Jill Cottrell Ghai (Nairobi). These were invigorating and illuminating for all present.

We hope to hold another round of writing workshops in late 2019 and welcome colleagues' participation.

Law Commission consultations currently open

Right to manage

The Law Commission has opened a consultation on **Leaseholders' right to manage their buildings**. Closing date: **30 April 2019**.

Simplifying immigration rules

Responses are also invited on the consultation on **Simplifying immigration rules**. Closing date: **26** April **2019**.

Commonhold reform

The consultation on **Reinvigorating commonhold: the alternative to leasehold** ownership reform will be closing on **10 March 2019**.

Journal of Law and Society (spring 2019) Articles

- Birds behaving badly: the regulation of seagulls and the construction of public space Sarah Trotter
- Revisiting the role of negotiation and trivialisation in environmental law enforcement – Ole Pedersen
- Of bodies and burkinis: institutional Islamophobia, Islamic dress and the colonial condition – Kimberley Brayson
- In dependence: the paradox of professional independence and taking seriously the vulnerabilities of lawyers in large corporate law firms – Steven Vaughan and Emma Oakley
- 'Ritual individualisation': creative genius in sentencing, mitigation and conviction – Cyrus Tata
- Inside the Home Office: adventures in public criminology during the 1980s Tim Hope

Book reviews

- Margaret Davies, Law Unlimited: Materialism, pluralism and legal theory – Jen Hendry
- Anne Barlow, Rosemary Hunter, Janet Smithson and Jan Ewing, Mapping Paths to Family Justice: Resolving family disputes in neoliberal times – John Eekelaar
- Lydia Hayes, Stories of Care: A labour of law Rosie Harding
- Faith Gordon, Children, Young People and the Press in a Transitioning Society – Julie Doughty

A Sociology of Justice in Russia (2018), Marina Kurkchiyan and Agnieszka Kubal (eds), Cambridge University Press £85 308pp

Much of the media coverage and academic literature on Russia suggests that the justice system is unreliable, ineffective and corrupt. But what if we look beyond the stereotypes and preconceptions? This volume features contributions from a number of scholars who studied Russia empirically and indepth, through extensive field research, observations in courts, and interviews with judges and other legal professionals, as well as lay actors. A number of tensions in the everyday experiences of justice in Russia are identified and the concept of the 'administerial model of justice' is introduced to illuminate some of the less obvious layers of Russian legal tradition including: file-driven procedure and extreme legal formalism, combined with informality of the pre-trial proceedings, followed by a ritualistic format of the trial. The underlying argument is that Russian justice is a much more complex system than is commonly supposed, and that it both requires and deserves a more nuanced understanding.

Asylum Determination in Europe: Ethnographic perspectives (2019) Nick Gill and Anthony Good (eds), Palgrave Macmillan Socio-Legal Studies Series, open access

Drawing on research material from 10 European countries, *Asylum Determination in Europe: Ethnographic Perspectives* brings together a range of detailed accounts of the legal and bureaucratic processes by which asylum claims are decided. The book includes a legal overview of European asylum determination procedures, followed by sections on the diverse actors involved, the means by which they communicate, and the ways in which they make life-and-death decisions on a daily basis. It offers a contextually rich account that moves beyond doctrinal law to uncover the gaps and variances between formal policy and legislation, and law as actually practised.

Immigration and Refugee Law in Russia. Socio-Legal Perspectives (2019) Agnieszka Kubal, Cambridge University Press £85 308pp

This book confronts the issue of access to justice and the realisation of human rights for migrants and refugees in Russia. It focuses on everyday experiences of immigration and refugee laws and how they work 'in action' in Russia. Kubal's primary focus is on people, their stories and experiences: migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, immigration lawyers, Russian judges, and the Federal Migration Service officers. These actors speak with different voices, profess different ideologies, and hold opposite worldviews; what they hold in common is their importance to our understanding of how law works in everyday life. By this focus on individual views and opinions, Kubal highlights the complexity and nuance of everyday experiences of the law, breaking away from the portrayal of Russia as a legal and ideological monolith.

Gender and Queer Perspectives on Brexit (2019) Moira Dustin, Nuno Ferreira and Susan Millns (eds) Palgrave Macmillan £89.99hb/£71.50eb 485pp

This collection examines the opportunities and challenges, rights and wrongs, and prospects and risks of Brexit from the perspectives of gender and sexuality. While much has been written about Brexit from legal, political, social and economic perspectives, there has been little analysis of the effects of Brexit on women and gender/sexual minorities who have historically been marginalised and whose voices have been less audible in political debates – both nationally and at the European level. The collection explores how Brexit might change the equality, human rights and social justice landscape, but from the viewpoint of women and gender/sexual minorities. The contributions gathered in it demonstrate the variety of ways that Brexit will make a difference to the lives of women and individuals marginalised because of gender or sexual identity.

Human Rights in the Council of Europe and the European Union: Achievements, trends and challenges (2018) S Greer, L Gerards and B Slowe (Cambridge University Press) £120 554pp

J Gerards and R Slowe (Cambridge University Press) £120 554pp This, the first integrated book-length study of human rights in the Council of Europe and EU on both legal and non-legal dimensions, seeks to resolve widespread confusion about the similarities and differences between these two organisations in this field. Describing, explaining, comparing and contrasting relevant institutions, procedures, norms and policies, the authors conclude that the successful institutionalisation of the human rights missions of each organisation has contributed significantly to securing minimum standards across the continent, the principal achievements. The central trends are the increasing expansion, complexity, multidimensionality and interpenetration of their human rights activities. The central challenges concern how this could, and should, be properly understood and coherently, legitimately, and effectively managed, particularly for the UK in the post-Brexit era where the components of each system need to be carefully distinguished and disentangled.

Competition Policy in Healthcare (2019) Mary Guy, Intersentia £75hb&eb 264pp

This book examines competition policy (competition law, merger control and sectoral regulation) in English and Dutch healthcare. In contrast to the USA, competition in English and Dutch healthcare develops from the principle of universal access to healthcare, which appears antithetical to competition. Unsurprisingly, competition reforms in both a health insurance system (the Netherlands) and a taxation-funded NHS (England) have proved controversial. Such reforms are also proving difficult to implement, with both countries developing 'healthcare-specific' modifications of general competition rules and differing relationships between the competition authorities and healthcare regulators in applying these. This book challenges both existing literature and the policy underpinning the reforms by adopting the position that healthcare is fundamentally different to other liberalised sectors and thus requires special treatment. Furthermore, it argues that different approaches are needed to accommodate the specific characteristics of national healthcare systems (such as the tension between the NHS and private healthcare in the UK) within the wider typology of insurance-based and taxationfunded systems across Europe.

In-House Lawyers' Ethics: Institutional logics, legal risk and the tournament of influence (2018) Richard Moorhead, Steven Vaughan and Cristina Godinho, Hart £55 264pp

This book provides an empirically grounded, in-depth investigation of the ethical dimensions to in-house practice and how legal risk is defined and managed by in-house lawyers and others. The growing significance and status of the role of general counsel has been accompanied by growth in legal risk as a phenomenon of importance. In-house lawyers are regularly exhorted to be more commercial, proactive and strategic, to be business leaders and not (mere) lawyers, but they are increasingly exposed for their roles in organisational scandals. This book poses the question: how far does going beyond being a lawyer conflict with or entail being more ethical? It explores the role of in-housers by calling on three key pieces of empirical research: two tranches of interviews with senior in-house lawyers and senior compliance staff; and an unparalleled large survey of in-house lawyers. On the basis of this evidence, the authors explore how ideas about in-house roles shape professional logics; how far professional notions such as independence play a role in those logics; and the ways in which ethical infrastructures are managed or are absent from in-house practice. It concludes with a discussion of whether and how inĥouse lawyers and their regulators need to take professionalism and professional ethicality more seriously.

Women's Legal Landmarks: Celebrating the history of women and law in the UK and Ireland (2018) Erika Rackley and Rosemary Auchmuty, Hart £95 244pp

Women's Legal Landmarks commemorates the centenary of women's admission in 1919 to the legal profession in the UK and Ireland by identifying key legal landmarks in women's legal history. Over 80 authors write about landmarks that represent a significant achievement or turning point in women's engagement with law and law reform. The landmarks cover a wide range of topics, including matrimonial property, the right to vote, prostitution, surrogacy and assisted reproduction, rape, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, equal pay, abortion, image-based sexual abuse, and the ordination of women bishops, as well as the life stories of women who were the first to undertake key legal roles and positions. Together the landmarks offer a scholarly intervention in the recovery of women's lost history and in the development of methodology of feminist legal history, as well as a demonstration of women's agency and activism in the achievement of law reform and justice.

Ageing Diversity and Equality: Social justice perspectives (2018) Sue Westwood (ed) Routledge, 394pp open access

Synthesising socio-legal sociological and social gerontological approaches, this edited collection critically interrogates normative assumptions about older people in relation to age, culture and ethnicity, disability, gender, health, religion, sexuality, socio-economic status and spatiality. Drawing upon Nancy Fraser's social justice model (resources, recognition and representation), it examines privilege and disadvantage, in/exclusions and associated inequalities in ageing. Its aim is to increase recognition and representation of marginalised groups of older people and thereby improve their resourcing, particularly in relation to housing, health and social care.

What is The Family of Law? The influence of the nuclear family (2019) Alan Brown, Hart £60 234pp

This book argues that the legal understanding of 'family' in the UK continues to be underpinned by the idealised image of the 'nuclear family', premised upon the traditional, gendered roles of 'father as breadwinner' and 'mother as homemaker'. This examination of the law's model of the family has been prompted by the substantial reforms that have taken place in family law in recent decades and the significant evolution in social attitudes and familial practices that has occurred in parallel.

Throughout the book, the influence of the nuclear family is noted in several different contexts: various specific legal definitions of 'family', the legal regulation of adult conjugal relationships, the attribution of legal parenthood, and the construction of the role of the 'parent' within the law. Ultimately, this book argues that, while these reforms have resulted in additional categories of relationship coming to be situated within the nuclear family model, there has not, as yet, been any fundamental alteration of the underpinning concept of the nuclear family itself. This book concludes by considering the possibilities offered beyond the nuclear family; exploring the reconceptualising of the legal understanding of family around alternative and potentially 'radical' models of family.

Jurist in Context: A memoir (2019) William Twining, Cambridge University Press £24.99pb/£79.99hb 404pp

This is the engaging and accessible intellectual memoir of a leading jurist. It tells the story of the development of his thoughts and writings over 60 years in the context of three continents and addresses the complexities of decolonisation, the troubles in Belfast, the contextual turn in legal studies, rethinking evidence and the implications of globalisation which have been central to his life and research. In propounding his original views as an enthusiastic self-styled 'legal nationalist', Twining maps his ideas of law as a unique discipline, which

pervades all spheres of social and political life while combining theory and practice, concepts and values, facts and rules in uniquely fascinating ways. Addressed to academic lawyers generally and to other non-specialists, this story brings out the importance and fascinations of a discipline that has changed, expanded and diversified in the post-War years, with an eye to its future development and potential.

The Times and Temporality of International Human Rights *Law*: call for chapter contributions

Editors Dr Kathryn McNeilly (Queen's University Belfast) and Dr Ben Warwick (University of Birmingham) invite expressions of interest from potential contributors for this edited collection. Those interested should email a title, a 500-word abstract, and 300-word biography to **e** k.mcneilly@qub.ac.uk and e b.t.warwick@bham.ac.uk by 1 April 2019.

Socio-legal publications

If you would like details of your latest monograph, edited collection or journal special issue included in the publications section of the next newsletter, don't forget to details to the editor, Marie Selwood send at e marieselwood@btinternet.com.

SLSA Blog

The SLSA blog went live in summer 2016 and has proved a great success, attracting regular posts and a steady stream of visitors. The blogeditors welcome contributions. If you have an idea for a short article (maximum 1000 words) on a hot topic of interest to your SLSA colleagues and others, please email e blogeditors@slsa.ac.uk. See w http://slsablog.co.uk/blog.

SLSA weekly eBULLETIN

The SLSA weekly ebulletin is published every Friday in termtime. As well as providing updates on SLSA activities and schemes, it also provides a weekly round-up of members' and other news including events, research, publications, vacancies and much more. If you would like an item included in the ebulletin, please send it by lunchtime on a Friday to e marieselwood@btinternet.com.

SLSA membership benefits

Benefits of SLSA membership include:

- three 16-page (minimum) newsletters per year;
- discounted one-day and SLSA Annual Conference fees;
- weekly ebulletin;
- eligibility for grants (research and fieldwork);
- eligibility for funding schemes (Seminar Competition, and Research Training Grants);
- eligibility for SLSA prizes;
- members' priority in newsletter publications pages;
- discounted student membership (with first year free);
- free annual Postgraduate Conference;
- student bursaries for SLSA Annual Conference;
- discounts on selected books;
- special membership category for retired members; ... and much more.
 - Visit w www.slsa.ac.uk for details.

REFLECTIONS ON WORK AS A FEMINIST LAWYER: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT 7 March 2019: Westminster Law School

Speaker: Harriet Wistrich, Solicitor at Birnberg Pierce and Director of the Centre for Women's Justice. See **w website** for details.

 MAKING UP A WORLD: PREFIGURATION, PLAY AND THE ENACTMENT OF NEW FACTS: INAUGURAL LECTURE BY DAVINA COOPER

13 March 2019: Dickson Poon School of Law, Safra Lecture Theatre, King's College London

Please see **w** webpage for details.

 WOMEN'S LEGAL LANDMARKS: IN CONVERSATION – FELICITY KAGANAS AND ALISON DIDUCK

13 March 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London Themes: Felicity Kaganas – First Women's Refuge, 1971; Alison Diduck – First Rape Crisis Centre, 1976. Please see **w website** for details of this free event.

THE PUTNEY DEBATES 2019

13–14 March 2019: St Mary's Church, Putney, London Theme: What role do we want for our judges in the 21st Century? Organised by the Oxford Foundation for Law, Justice and Society. Please see **w website** for details.

CONSUMER ADR: DELIVERING FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE FOR CONSUMERS, BUSINESS AND MARKETS

18-19 March 2019: Wolfson College, Oxford

Please see **flyer** for details of this Centre for Socio-Legal Studies event.

 THE 'ACCEPTABLE' CARTEL? HORIZONTAL AGREEMENTS UNDER COMPETITION LAW AND BEYOND

22 March 2019: London School of Economics and Political Science This is a workshop reflecting *McEllistrim v Ballymacelligott Co-Operative Agricultural and Dairy Society Limited* [1919] AC 548. Please see **w website** for details.

 DECOLONISING THE CURRICULUM PROJECT: STUDENT-LED CONFERENCE

20 March 2019: University of Kent at Canterbury

Hosted by the Kent Law School Decolonising the Curriculum Project (funded by a Teaching Enhancement Award) and facilitated by Dr Suhraiya Jivraj (Senior Lecturer in Law). See **flyer** and **page 11** for further details.

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF LAW, CULTURE, AND THE HUMANITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE 22–23 March 2019: Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

This year's conference is hosted by Carleton University's Department of Law and Legal Studies. Please see **w** website for details.

Social and Legal Studies 28(2) (April 2019)

- Transformative justice, reparations and transatlantic slavery – Matthew Evans and David Wilkins, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Securitization and community-based protection among Chin refugees in Kuala Lumpur – Kirsten McConnachie
- Kaleidoscopic justice: sexual violence and victimsurvivors' perceptions of justice – Clare McGlynn and Nicole Westmarland
- Witchcraft accusations as gendered persecution in refugee law – Sara Dehm and Jenni Millbank
- A gossamer consensus: discourses of vulnerability in the Westminster prostitution policy subsystem – Rebecca M F Hewer
- 'Impressed' by feelings how judges perceive defendants' emotional expressions in Danish courtrooms – Louise Victoria Johansen

• BSA EARLY CAREER EVENT: CALL FOR PAPERS

6 April 2019: University of Aberdeen Please see **flyer** for details of the British Sociological Association event. Call closes: **11 March 2019**.

 SUSTAINABLE TAXATION: GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND LEGAL SOLUTIONS

8–9 April 2019: University College of Gävle, Sweden Please see **w website** for details.

WOMEN'S LEGAL LANDMARKS: IN CONVERSATION – JOANNE CONAGHAN AND ELIZABETH WOODCRAFT 10 April 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Themes: Joanne Conaghan – A Brief Summary of the Most Important Laws Concerning Women, Barbara Leigh Smith Bodichon, 1854; Elizabeth Woodcraft – Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp, 1981–2000. Please see **w website** for details of this free event.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF COMPARATIVE LAW: POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COMPARATIVE LAW

11–12 April 2019: Lancaster University Please see **w website** for details.

 SECURITY, BORDERS AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: INTERSECTIONS, CONVERGENCE AND CHALLENGES

25–26 April 2019: University of Warwick This event is supported by the **SLSA Seminar Competition**. Please see **w website** for details.

 LAW–RELIGION–POLITICS: CALL FOR PAPERS 26–27 April 2019: University of Wrocław. Poland

Please see Facebook page for details. Closing date: 22 March 2018.

TRUST, RISK, INFORMATION AND THE LAW CONFERENCE: CARING FOR CRITICALLY ILL CHILDREN IN THE GLARE OF DIGITAL MEDIA 1 May 2019: University of Winchester

Theme: Caring for critically ill children in the glare of digital media: rights, best interests and public good in the age of 'Generation Tagged'. Please see **w website** for details and booking.

SOCIO-LEGAL SEMINAR SERIES: LAW'S WARS, LAW'S TRIAL

5 May 2019: Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Manor Road, Oxford Speaker: Professor Richard L Abel, UCLA Law. See **w** website for details.

LAYPERSONS IN LAW

9–10 May 2019: Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin, Germany Organised by Humboldt University, Berlin, and the University of Magdeburg. Please see **website** for details.

• HOW TO GET A PHD IN LAW: DAY THREE

10 May 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London Theme: 'Researching, disseminating and publishing in the digital world'. See **w** website for details.

HUMAN-FOREST RELATIONS IN ENGLAND: EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN LAW, ECOLOGY AND SOCIETY 13-15 May 2019: Great Oak Hall, Westonbirt Arboretum, Tetbury,

Gloucestershire Please see **w website** for details of this workshop organised by the School of Law, University of Sussex.

LAW AND PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE 2019: CALL FOR PAPERS

15 May 2019: Nottingham Trent University

Please see **flyer** for details. Closing date: **15 February 2019**.

 WOMEN'S LEGAL LANDMARKS: IN CONVERSATION – MÁIRÉAD ENRIGHT AND FIONA DE LONDRAS

15 May 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London Themes: Máiréad Enright – Health (Family Planning) Act 1979; Fiona de Londras – Thirty-Sixth Amendment to the Irish Constitution, 2018. Please see **w** website for details of this free event.



ASSOCIATION FOR LAW, PROPERTY AND SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

16—18 May 2019: Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York

Please see **w** website for meeting details.

20TH INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR THE SEMIOTICS OF LAW: CALL FOR PAPERS 23–25 May 2019: Instituto Jurídico da Faculdade de Direito da

Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal

Theme: 'The limits of law'. See **flyer** for details.

 LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING 2019: DIGNITY

30 May—2 June 2019: Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, USA

Please see **w website** for details.

 CANADIAN LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION/ ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DROIT ET SOCIÉTÉ ANNUAL MEETING

3–5 June 2019: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada Please see **w website** for meeting details.

 CKOP EVENT: THE ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONALS IN A CLIMATE OF UNCERTAINTY – AN UNCONFERENCE

5 June 2018: Open University in London

This event is organised by the Centre for Knowledge in Organisations and Professions. Please see **w website** for details.

IMPACT AND LAW REFORM CONFERENCE

11 June 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London Please see **w** webpage and page 4 for details of this SLSAsupported event. Registration is now open.

 WOMEN'S LEGAL LANDMARKS: IN CONVERSATION – LOIS BIBBINGS AND TERESA SUTTON

12 June 2019: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London Themes: Lois Bibbings – Section 5(1) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885; Teresa Sutton – R v Jackson (1891). Please see **w website** for registration for this free event.

ASLI CONFERENCE: THE RULE OF LAW AND THE ROLE OF LAW IN ASIA

11—12 June 2019: Asian Law Institute, Faculty of Law, Bukit Timah Campus, National University of Singapore

See **w** website for details of this Asian Law Institute event, hosted by the National University of Singapore.

CORRUPTION, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

20–21 June 2019: European University Institute, Florence, Italy This is a joint event organised by Portsmouth Law School and the European University Institute. Please see **w website** for details.

ADVOCACY AND VULNERABLE WITNESSES: 20 YEARS ON FROM THE YOUTH JUSTICE AND CRIMINAL EVIDENCE ACT 1999: CALL FOR PAPERS

21 June 2019: Centre for Advocacy, Nottingham Law School Hosted by Nottingham Law School in conjunction with The Advocate's Gateway. Please see **w** website for details. Call closes: 1 April 2019.

• LABOUR LAW RESEARCH NETWORK LLRN4 VALPARAÍSO: A GLOBAL CONVERSATION ON LABOUR LAW

23–25 June 2019: Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile Please see **w website** for details.

 INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL MANAGEMENT STUDIES CONFERENCE: 'BEING OPEN TO CARE, BEING OPEN ABOUT CARE'

27–29 June 2019: Open University, Milton Keynes Please see **w website** for details.

• IVR 2019: DIGNITY, DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY 7–13 July: University of Lucerne, Switzerland Please see **w website** for details.

• TAX POLICY CONFERENCE 2019

9 July 2019: University of Cambridge

Please see **w** website for details.

• APPLIED LEGAL STORYTELLING: CALL FOR PAPERS

9–11 July 2019: University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado Please see **w website** for details. Extended closing date: 11 March 2019.

• EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE: EUROPE AND BEYOND – BOUNDARIES, BARRIERS AND BELONGING: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

20–23 August 2019: Manchester Metropolitan University The ISA Research Committee on the Sociology of Law Session, Democratic Deficit and Judicial Power in Europe, is being organised by Jacek Kurczewski and Mavis Maclean. Please see **w website** for details.

UACES 49TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1–4 September 2019: University of Lisbon, Portugal UACES is the academic association for contemporary European studies. See **w website** for details.

TELEVISION DRAMA, LAW AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

6 September 2019: University of Westminster, London Please see **w website** for details.

DECOLONISATION AND THE LAW SCHOOL: CALL FOR PAPERS

13 September 2019: Law School, University of Bristol Please see w website for details. Closing date: 31 March 2019.

 SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES IN GERMANY AND THE UK: THEORY AND METHODS

23–24 September 2019: Humboldt University Berlin The keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Dr Susanne Baer (German Constitutional Court). Please see **w webpage** for details. This is an SLSA co-sponsored event.

GENOCIDE AND LAW: COMMUNICATING THROUGH VISUAL ARTS AND LANGUAGE: CALL FOR PAPERS 26–28 June 2020: Poznan, Poland

21st International Roundtable for the Semiotics of Law and the 15th Conference on Legal Translation and Interpreting and Comparative Legilinguistics. Please see **flyer** for details. Closing date for abstracts: **28 February 2020**.

Social and Legal Studies 28(3) (June 2019)

- Law, nation and race: exploring law's cultural power in delimiting belonging in English courtrooms Ana Aliverti
- The vulnerability of heterosexuality: consent, gender deception and embodiment Mitchell Travis
- Theorizing the performative effects of penal risk technologies: (re)producing the subject who must be dangerous – Robert Werth
- Found and lost in translation: exploring the legal protection of women from the Domestic Violence Act 2005 through the social public space of Kolkata – Amrita Mukhopadhyay
- How co-production regulates Martin Innes, Bethan Davies and Morag McDermont

Dialogue and debate

What's law got to do with good science?: Charis Thompson's *Good Science* – Ilke Turkmendag, Marie Fox, Thérèse Murphy and Charis Thompson